

Message Text

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51

ORIGIN AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 AGR-20 COME-00 SWF-02

IGA-02 PC-10 USIA-15 DODE-00 INT-08 RSC-01 /167 R

DRAFTED BY AFR/CWR/SDE:HFARNHAM:HF

APPROVED BY AA/AFR:DONALD S BROWN

AFR/CWR:EJSPENCER A

AFR/CWR/SDE:LHILLSON

AFR/CWR:JPATTERSON

FFP/POD:PASHEEHAN

AF/W:JVINCENT

COM/TR:RJAMES/VPRAKASH

IO/AGR:ROLSON (INFO)

----- 054758

P R 221403Z MAR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BAMAKO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY COTONOU PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY BONN

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AFDROUGHT

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: MALI - USE OF COTONOU TO GAO ROUTE TO SUPPLY
SIXTH REGION

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PARIS FOR HELMAN, BRUSSELS FOR MARTIN, ROME FOR FODAG, AB-

IDJAN FOR REDSO

1. DURING HIS RECENT VISIT TO BAMAKO TO ATTEND THE CILSS MEETING, DONALD BROWN DISCUSSED A WIDE RANGE OF DROUGHT ISSUES WITH MINISTER DOUKARA.

2. ONE OF THE ITEMS DISCUSSED WAS THE GOM'S ABILITY TO MOVE GRAIN INTO THE SIXTH REGION PRIOR TO THE RAINY SEASON. IN VIEW OF THE INABILITY TO MEET THE TOTAL PERCEIVED NEED IN THE SIXTH REGION WITH THE PRESENTLY AVAILABLE TRANSPORT, IT WAS MUTUALLY AGREED THAT THE USG COULD SHIP SOME GRAIN TO GAO THROUGH COTONOU REPEAT COTONOU ON A TRIAL BASIS. AID/W IS PRESENTLY TAKING ACTION TO SEND SEVERAL HUNDRED TONS OF GRAIN ARRIVING IN COTONOU THIS MONTH TO GAO. THE INITIAL SHIPMENT OF GRAIN WILL BE DIVERTED FROM THAT BOUND FOR NIGER. DETAILS OF THE SHIPMENT ARE SUBJECT OF A SEPTTEL.

3. BECAUSE THE USG HAS JUST SIGNED AN AGREEMENT WITH THE FLOUR MILLS OF NIGERIA FOR USE OF A PORTION OF THEIR BULK OFFLOADING CAPACITY IN APAPA TO MOUNT A BULK/BAGGING

OPERATION FOR NIGER, THE QUANTITY OF GRAIN AVAILABLE IN AFRICA FOR NIGER WILL INCREASE IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS. WE ARE CONFIDENT THE SHIPMENTS TO GAO WILL NOT INTERRUPT THE TEMPO OF DELIVERIES FOR NIGER WHICH WILL BE SPEEDED UP DUE TO THIS NEW BULK/BAGGING OPERATION.

4. REQUEST EMBASSY/ADO INFORM GON OF PROPOSED USG PLAN TO SHIP TRIAL QUANTITY OF GRAIN TO GAO, TRANSITING NIGER, AND SEEK GON CONCURRENCE AND ASSISTANCE TO EXPEDITE DELIVERY. YOU SHOULD INFORM GON THAT IF TRIAL SHIPMENT SUCCESSFUL, WE ANTICIPATE INCREASED SHIPMENTS TO APPROXIMATE MAXIMUM OF 2,500 MT PER MONTH OVER TWO-TO-THREE MONTH PERIOD, PRIOR TO RAINY SEASON. SHOULD GON INQUIRE AS TO WHY WE WISH TO DO THIS IN VIEW OF CRITICAL SITUATION IN NIGER, PLEASE INFORM THEM THAT WHILE WE REALIZE THE SITUATION IN PARTS OF NIGER IS CRITICAL, THERE ARE EQUALLY CRITICAL AREAS OUTSIDE THE COUNTRY, PARTICULARLY MALI'S SIXTH REGION. THE DEPARTMENT BELIEVES THAT BY ESTABLISHING A TOTALLY NEW BULK RECEIVING/BAGGING OPERATION IN LAGOS/APAPA, ONE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CAPABLE OF ACCEPTING A MINIMUM ADDITIONAL AMOUNT OF 10,000 MT OF GRAIN EACH MONTH, WE HAVE RESPONDED TO THE CRITICAL NEEDS IN NIGER IN A MOST POSITIVE AND FORTHCOMING FASHION. IN THE SPIRIT OF PAN AFRICANISM AND COOPERATION AMONGST ALL MEMBERS OF CILSS IN HELPING EACH OTHER ALLEVIATE AFFECTS OF DROUGHT, WE EXPECT THE GON WILL SPEEDILY CONCUR TO SHIPMENTS FROM COTONOU TO GAO.

5. AMBASSADOR DESIGNATE AND ADO CONCUR. DECONTROL
JUNE 30, 1974. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: golinofr
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
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To: BAMAKO COTONOU
Type: TE
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